

The GRANITE STATE NEWS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

ESTABLISHED 1859

WOLFEBORO, N.H. GRANITESTATENEWS.COM 756



Tuesday, incumbent Sheriff Dominic Richart of Conway with 74 percent of the votes cast at press time easily defeated challenger Luke Freudenberg of Wolfeboro for the Republican nomination. Since there is no Democratic candidate for sheriff, Richard is assured of re-election to a third term in the Nov. 8 general election.

In the race for the District 1 seat on the Executive Council incumbent Joe Kenney of Wakefield

Amatucci files article mandating investigation of public officials

17 of her 29 claims against town dismissed

BY THOMAS BEELER

Editor

WOLFEBORO — On

Friday, Sept. 2, Wolfeboro resident Josephine Amatucci filed a petition

warrant article signed by the required 25 voters with Wolfeboro Town Clerk Pat Waterman.

Under state law the

article cannot be amend-

ed and will appear on the

March 14, 2017, ballot as

submitted.

The title of the petition is "To see if the Town will vote to establish a Policy Ordinance or a

Charter, that would provide for a safer community. By MANDATING

SEE AMATUCCI PAGE A13

Transfer station costs running higher in Tuftonboro

BY ELISSA PAQUETTE

Contributing Writer

TUFTONBORO

Transfer

Station Manager Guy

Gallagher shared his

concern about the per-

sistent trend toward in-

creasing construction

INSIDE

BY THOMAS BEELER

Editor

Volume 157 • Number 17

36 Pages in 3 Sections

Tuftonboro News ... A1, A9

Wakefield News ... A7 A14

Wolfeboro News ... A1 A16

Arts & Entertainment

... B9-B11 C2

Business

AA

Class VI roads again an issue

BY THOMAS BEELER

Editor

WOLFEBORO — At

its Sept. 7 meeting Wolfeboro selected for a second time voted in favor of

granting a building per-

mit on a Class VI road.



THOMAS BEELER

A fond farewell for Rob

Houseman

More than 75 friends and colleagues came to an afternoon reception for departing Town Planning Rob Houseman on Tuesday, Sept. 6 to thank him for his more than 20 years

AMATUCCI

FROM PAGE A1

recommend

Termina-

County Superior Court

and Amatucci v. Chase

(No. 16cv-206SM).

Investigations of public officials for their criminal and civil rights violations filed by the public. A procedure where the accuser is interviewed first, gets written statements, interviews witness, gets written statements, interviews the accused official last, gets written statement or written defense. And must never

discuss the investigation with the accused official 'off the record'. Does not place the investigative file in the accused official's personnel file. Makes it MANDATORY

(1) to receive and register each complaint; (2) to conduct investigations that includes the Complainant; (3) to provide a written response to every Complaint; (4) to have subpoena powers to compel the attendance of witnesses for the purposes of the production of documents; (5) a policy that would remove any and all discretion by the town officials whether to investigate or not

Amatucci has been demanding for some time an independent criminal investigation of events that took place on May 7, 2014, when she

alleges she was threatened by Wolfeboro Police Chief Stuart Chase and assaulted and phys-

ically restrained by former Town Planner Rob Houseman, who was serving as acting town manager that day in the absence of Town Manager David Owen. She has demanded that both men be fired along with Wolfeboro Police Capt.

Dean Rondeau whom she claims made a false traffic report against her.

Wolfeboro selectmen have maintained that the town police commission has sole oversight of police personnel matters. The police commission has declined to undertake the independent investigation, as has the state attorney general's office, based on the claims presented.

Amatucci lawsuits One result of the fall-

ure of these demands has been a series of law-

suits filed in Carroll

County Superior Court and U.S. District Court for the State of New Hampshire. The town filed a suit of its own in Superior Court against Amatucci in April, asking the court to declare

Amatucci - has been demanding for some time an independent criminal investigation of events that took place on May 7, 2014, when she

alleges she was threatened by Wolfeboro Police Chief Stuart Chase and assaulted and phys-

ically restrained by former Town Planner Rob Houseman, who was serving as acting town manager that day in the absence of Town Manager David Owen. She has demanded that both men be fired along with Wolfeboro Police Capt.

Dean Rondeau whom

she claims made a false

traffic

report against her.

Wolfeboro selectmen

have maintained that

the town police commis-

sion has sole oversight

of police personnel mat-

ters. The police commis-

sion has declined to un-

dertake the independent

investigation, as has the

state attorney gen-

eral's office, based on the

claims presented.

Amatucci lawsuits One result of the fall-

ure of these demands has been a series of law-

suits filed in Carroll

(No. 15-cv-93-SM); Amatucci v. Town of Wolfeboro (No. 15cv-300-JL); Assistant Anne Marble,

litigant she will be required to be represented by an attorney or put in escrow the defendant's estimated legal costs.

As for the nine federal lawsuits filed against the town, town officials, the police prosecutor and the state by Amatucci in connection with the events of May 7, 2014, United States Magistrate Judge Andrea K. Johnstone reviewed the town, town officials, the police prosecutor and the state by Amatucci in connection with the events of May 7, 12 of them. Amatucci has stated the minimum facts necessary to allow those claims to be served on the defendants. That decision does not mean that the judge believes that the defendants are guilty of those claims, only that they need to respond to the claims

Judge Johnstone's 37-page opinion reviews all of the 29 claims made in the consolidated cases and determines that in

the town, town officials, the police prosecutor and the state by Amatucci in connection with the events of May 7, 12 of them. Amatucci has stated the minimum facts necessary to allow those claims to be served on the defendants. That decision does not mean that the judge believes that the defendants are guilty of those claims, only that they need to respond to the claims

12 in United States Dis-

trict Court) have been dismissed and gone to

The judge also recom-

mended that 17 claims be dismissed, along with

final judgment, and 5 more are still pending in

USDC, awaiting a ruling as to whether the Town

claims experience

State Trooper Greg Dube (who pulled Amatucci April 13 trial, and then

was a third that was filed just before the trial that

we were not aware of a

Police Prosecutor Timothy Morgan of the Wolfeboro Police Department

selected to reports in the newspaper that her suit

against the town hav-

cost the taxpayers more than \$30,000. On July 1, she wrote a letter the edi-

tor demanding a front page story that would tell the public that it is not my lawsuits that are costing the taxpayer

money, as when anyone files a lawsuit against the Town, the Town's insurance company, Primex steps in and pays

for the lawsuit. When asked by email about

that assertion, Owen re-

sponded, "She obviously doesn't understand that

Primex does not defend the Town in all of her lawsuits. Just those seek-

ing monetary damages from the Town, and that

her lawsuits have cost the Town far more than \$30,000."

Owen also noted that